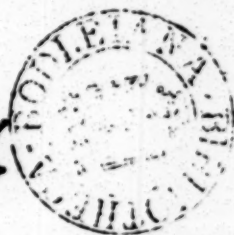


A Word to the Wise :



O R,

Considerations Humbly Offered to our Representatives who
are to sit in the Ensuing Parliament.

THAT it's the Priviledg of Free-born *English* Men to Chuse their Representatives to sit in Parliament; and their Representatives Duty to act for them; and the Peoples Right to have free access unto them, to make their Grievances Known (as was worthily observed by Sir *Bar. Shewers*, in his Speech to the People when he was cho-
sen at *Exon*): But considering the Great Concerns that lye upon them in Parliament-time, and how unfit it is then to trouble them, it's therefore absolutely necessary for them to exert the Peoples Right (that, as in Ancient Times, so now they may have a Committee sitting in time of Parliament, to hear the Peoples Grievances, and, if fit, to report them to the House: And that they should be chosen out of such Members as have not Places in Publick Offices; for it's not to be expected that the Peoples Complaints should be heard and redrest by such as are complain'd against, or by those as may be Guilty of the same crimes in other Offices; it having been of late seen, that the Complainants have been by false Witnesses, for promises of Reward, confronted, and thereby rejected, and some of them starved, or ruined, and in danger of being murdered, and the Offenders thereby encouraged.

And to consider the great Distress the People of *England* many Years past, and still do labour under, by not having such a Committee, to whom the People may without charge apply themselves: and that for want thereof many Abuses in the Government have not been inspected, and the Offenders detected; and which would not only do the People Justice giving them their Right herein, but it would also be a great Ease to the House of Commons, in the preventing of many frivolous Petitions, which the whole House is now so often troubled with, which causes so many Committees on purpose to hear particular Grievances, the Subject of the charge of getting Committees together, and of Clerks Fees, which oftentimes too heavy for their Pockets, and infallibly prevent the mutinous appearing of many persons at the Parliament Door, which looks more like a Mob than petitioning.

And considering how earnest and willing Gentlemen are to take the great trouble and care upon them to be the Peoples Representatives, and what Promises they make when they are chosen, and how the Eyes of the Nation is so much fixed on the ensuing Parliament at this nature of time, in which the People's good is so much depending, surely it can no ways be doubted, but their Representatives will answer their Expectations herein, and with all Candour hear their Grievances, and promote such Bills as make for the Peoples good.

Humbly putting you in mind of two Bills (which to the Everlasting Praise of the most honourable House of Peers) was sent down by them to the House of Commons the last Session, and to the great grief of many good men, by them rejected.

The one was for shortning Suits in Law and Equity, the length of which is such a bur-
then to the people, that they cannot long endure.

The other was intituled *Solvent and Insolvent*, by which the Solvent who lye in Prison, and are not able to pay their Debts, or by their Estates able to make satisfaction to their Creditors, should be compelled thereunto, and the Insolvent, who are not able to pay their Debts, or by their Estates could not make satisfaction to their Creditors, should not lye in Prison and perish, with such Cautions and Restrictions in the said Bill expressed, that the Creditor could not be injured thereby.

The Jews had Years of Jubilee, other Nations places of Relief; the English Nation hath neither.

Doing Justice, hearing the Peoples Grievances, and Redressing them, punishing the Offenders, and Encouraging well-doing. In Divine Writ, and in all Ages hath been accounted the best Government, and the happiest People that do enjoy it; and such Governments as do deny it to the People, deemed to the greatest Judgments the Scripture any where do pronounce.

Trajan, A Heathen Emperor, when he was dying, called his Subjects to witness for him, that his Ear was always open to hear the Complaints of his Subjects, his hands ready to redress their Grievances, and his hands open to punish Offenders.

Twas by the fair pretence of doing Justice, and hearing the Peoples Grievances that *Abolom* raised a Rebellion, and endeavour'd to dethrone his Father, and the best of Kings.

Twas under pretence of King *Charles's* denying the People their Rights of Parliament, and not hearing the Peoples Complaints, and redressing Grievances, that Arms was taken up against him, and caused some of his Subjects to consent to his Murder, by which King *Charles* the Second was so long kept out of the Throne.

Twas by Invading the Peoples Right, and not doing them Justice, King *James* the Second was Abdicated.

Twas by *Oliver Cromwells* pretending to hear the Peoples Grievances, and promising Justice to be Administred to all Men, he Usurped the Power of a Protector.

Twas by his hearing the meanest Man's Complaint, tho against the chiefest Ministers of State, and keeping them from imbezling the Nations Treasure; and when he turned out any for Evil Practises, he never suffered them to go unpunished, or took to waste in their places, by which he wanted not Mony to carry on his Designs, which caused his Usurping Power to last to his Lives end.

Twas by his preferring Men for their Merits, and not for Favour, Affection, or Money, that made his Officers true to him.

Twas by hearing the Complaints of the meanest Soldier and Seamen against their Superior Officers (if Just) and paying them well, that made his Souldiers and Seamen stand by him, that with a handful of Men he made the World dread him.

Twas his not heaping up the Nations Treasure, to exalt his own Family, that caused so many of the Nation to love and stand by him, and that which makes his Government so much talked of, now we are under the best of Kings, is occasioned by not punishing Offenders, who waste the Nations Substance, and defraud the King.

Twas his subduing the Corruption of the Lawyers, and causing the Poor Mans Cause to be heard, as well as the Rich, and bringing our Laws as well as our Religion into our own Mother Tongue, by which the People could not be ruined by whole sale, that caused the meanest sort to love him.

Twas Admiral *Blakes* doing Justice to the Seamen, and loving them, and not studying his own interest, that to *England's* Glory, with a small Fleet he Commanded the Seas, and to his praise be it spoken, when he died (though a Frugal Man) he left his Executor but 1300*l.* besides his Paternal Estate.

Twas by the Lord Chancellor *Jeffreys* shortning Causes in Law and Equity, and by Correcting the Evil Practices of Attorneys, Solicitors, and Bayliffs, that he has wiped off the stain of his Failings, for which the Mobb was like to Murder him, and is now so much applauded for what he did when he was Chancellor.

So that some who were good Men, and acted good things for the Government, under a bad Government, and thereby esteemed for their good Actions, some of them, and some of their Children, since we have been under a good Government and the best of Kings, by acting bad things, have made themselves of no esteem.

The mentioning of all which, is not to vindicate any Usurping Power but to excite such as are under a Lawful Government, and the best of Princes, in good Actions, and making good Laws, to out-doe them that acted under an Usurping Power.

To Conclude, By doing Justice to all Men, hearing the Complaints of the Oppressed, and redressing their Grievances, punishing Offenders, making Law-Suits short and ealie, whereby the Poor may have Right done them as well as the Rich, is that which alone can make the Government lasting, and the People happy; and will certainly bring God's Blessing upon our Representatives, and People whom they do present; and make our Children's Children praise God that such a Parliament ever did Sit.

God Bless KING WILLIAM, and Prosper the good Proceedings of our Representatives.

T. S.